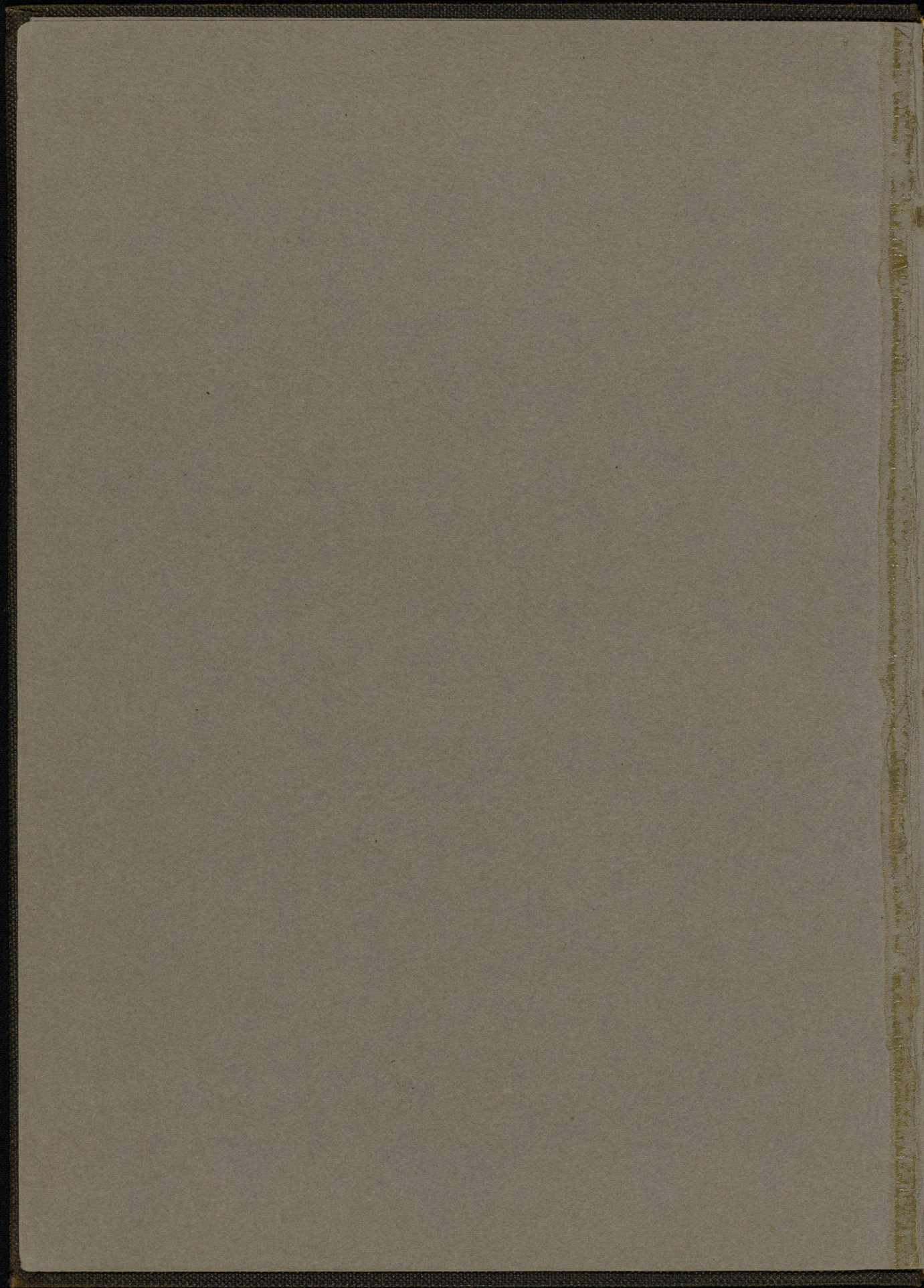


Gift of Barbara Bach Phipps. 1/2
May 30, 1977

Barbara C. Bach,
Wellesley College, 1916.



A Memory Book
of
College Hall.

Barbara Bach
(Phelps)

Barbara Bach Phelps



536 THE MAIN BUILDING, WELLES COLLEGE

Our College Hall as it used to be.

\$1,500,000 FIRE AT WELLESLEY

College Hall, Containing Valuable Works of Art, Was Destroyed Today.

A STUDENT GAVE ALARM

Three Hundred Girls and Several Members of the Faculty Escaped Uninjured.

Associated Press Dispatches by Special Wires
Wellesley, Mass., March 17.—College Hall, one of the oldest and largest of the Wellesley College buildings, was destroyed by fire this morning. Although 300 students and several members of the faculty were asleep in the five-story brick structure when the flames were discovered all escaped uninjured. The fire gong was sounded, and the young women marched out without disorder. There was no time to save personal belongings. The girls found shelter in the other college buildings.

The fire started in the chemical laboratory, on the fourth floor of the left wing. It is thought it was due to a spontaneous combustion. In addition to the dormitory section of 250 rooms and the laboratory College Hall contained the administrative offices and several classrooms. It stood apart from the other college buildings, which were not endangered by the fire. Apparatus from Newton and Natick assisted the Wellesley firemen in fighting the flames, but the fire had gained such a start that the great structure was completely ruined. The first alarm was given at 5 o'clock by one of the girls, who awoke to find her room filled with smoke. Her screams aroused other students and attracted the attention of the watchman, William Mortimer. Mortimer sounded the fire gongs, and within a few minutes the fire escapes and stairways were swarming with young women. Later, borrowing clothes from occupants of other dormitories, the girls returned and saved many valuable books from the library, on the first floor, before the flames reached it. Mrs. Mary Calkins, professor of psychology, who roomed in the building, assisted in the work. The hall contained many valuable paintings and other works of art. The loss is estimated at \$1,500,000.

The college sessions were suspended, and special trains were made up to take the girls to their homes. The superb behavior of the young women probably prevented heavy loss of life or injury to many who groped their way through smoke-filled halls and down stairways and fire-escapes to safety.

College Hall had a commanding site on a hill just east of Lake Waban. The cornerstone was laid in 1871. The building was of brick and stone, with an interior of wooden fittings. It was five stories high, with a floor space of 500 to 120 feet. The building was divided into dormitories, administrative offices and quarters for servants. Three hundred and fifty persons slept there last night, 250 students, 50 members of the faculty and 50 maids employed by the faculty and students.

Miss Charlotte Donnell of Wiscasset, Maine, and Miss Virginia Moffat of Orange, N. J., both seniors, were the heroines of the fire. They occupied rooms on the third floor, under the laboratory, where the fire originated. Their rooms faced on the court around which the building was constructed, and the glare of the flames aroused them. Miss Moffat saw a bright light reflected on the transom over her door and, springing from her bed, rushed into the hall, where she met Miss Donnell.

"There is a fire," she cried.

Miss Donnell replied: "I'll ring the fire alarm, while you call the girls."

Miss Donnell ran down a flight of stairs and started the fire gong, on the second floor. Miss Moffat hurried along the halls, pounding on every door. She did not yell "fire," but commanded "put on your wraps quickly." Miss Donnell next joined the other, and together they roused all those who had not already responded to the gong. Soon the halls were filled with startled young women. Some carried personal effects, but the greater number had not waited to save their belongings. The halls already were filled with smoke as the girls formed in line and marched from the building.

The college volunteer fire brigade was early in action and made sure that none of the sleepers were left to the flames. Once outside several of the girls sought to re-enter the building to save valuable papers in the offices. Miss Mary Smith of West Chester, Pa., secretary to the dean, made a bold dash into the dean's office, on the first floor, and with the aid of Edward C. Monahan, an employe, saved most of the dean's records.

Mrs. Henry Durant, widow of the founder of the college, who is 90 years old, witnessed the fire, being taken to the scene in a wheel chair.

Fire companies were unable to stay the flames, which were burning themselves out when the students assembled at chapel at 9 o'clock.

President Ellen S. Pendleton announced that the college would be closed until the end of the spring vacation, April 7. Sessions were to have continued until March 27. The president asked all who could to make arrangements to leave Wellesley today, so that accommodations could be had for those who would be obliged to remain.

Scores of telegrams asking that money and clothing be sent from their homes were dispatched by the students. Officials of the college made arrangements to provide funds for any who were in immediate need, and citizens threw open their homes to the students.

250 WELLESLEY GIRLS IMPERILLED BY FIRE

Dormitory Blaze Routs Sleeping
Students, All of Whom Escape
Without Injury

DAMAGE PUT AT \$1,500,000

WELLESLEY, Mass., March 17.

Two hundred and fifty Wellesley students and 100 other persons, including members of the faculty and servants, fled for their lives early to-day when fire destroyed College Hall, the largest and most pretentious of the buildings in the college group. No one was injured. The loss is estimated at \$1,500,000.

The college sessions have been temporarily suspended and special trains were made up to take the girls to their homes. Practically all of those who had rooms in the building lost their personal possessions and clothing.

The superb behavior of the young women probably prevented heavy loss of life or injury to many who groped their way through smoke-filled halls and down stairways and fire escapes to safety.

The following students from Pennsylvania and nearby States, were occupants of the burned building, and lost all their property:

Ida H. Appenzeller, Lancaster, Pa.; Elizabeth D. Armstrong, Philadelphia; Winifred S. Bach, Wilmington; Nelle K. Beach, Ridgway, Pa.; Margaret Davison, Scranton, Pa.; Dorothy S. Day, Lawrenceville, Pa.; Katherine Diehl, West Philadelphia; Jessie L. Edwards, Pottsville, Pa.; Dorothy Good, Williamsport, Pa.; Margaret Hugus, Williamsport; Laura J. Jennings, Greensburg, Pa.; Katherine H. Keiser, Reading; Margaret C. Lang, Pittsburgh; Helen J. Lange, Scranton; Charlotte C. Mehaffy, Wilmington, and Marion R. Mulford, Wayne, Pa.

College Hall had a commanding site on a hill just east of Lake Waban. The cornerstone was laid in 1871.

The building was of brick and stone, with an interior of wooden fittings. It was five stories high, with a floor space of 300 by 120 feet.

The building was divided into dormitories, laboratories, administrative offices, class rooms and quarters for servants.

Miss Charlotte Donnell, of Wiscasset, Me., and Miss Virginia Moffat, of Orange, N. J., both seniors, were the heroines of the fire. They occupied rooms on the third floor, under the laboratory where the fire originated, supposedly from spontaneous combustion. Their rooms faced on the court around which the building was constructed, and the glare of the flames aroused them. Miss Moffat saw a bright light reflected on the transom over her door, and springing from her bed, rushed into the hall, where she met Miss Donnell.

"There is a fire," she cried.

Miss Donnell replied, "I'll ring the fire alarm, while you call the girls."

AWAKEN SLEEPING STUDENTS.

Suited action to words, Miss Donnell ran down a flight of stairs and started the fire gong on the second floor. Miss Moffat hurried along the halls pounding on every door. She did not yell "Fire!" but commanded, "Put on your wraps quickly!"

Miss Donnell then joined the other and together they roused all those who had not already responded to the gong. Soon the halls were filled with startled young women. Some carried personal effects in their arms, but the greater number had not waited to save their belongings.

The halls were already filled with smoke as the girls formed in line and marched from the building. The college volunteer fire brigade was early in action and made sure that all the sleepers were aroused.

Once outside several of the girls sought to re-enter the building to save valuable papers in the offices. Miss Mary Smith, of Westchester, Pa., secretary of the dean, made a bold dash into the dean's office on the first floor, and with the aid of Edward C. Monahan, an employe, saved most of the dean's records.

Fire companies from Newton, Natick and Needham responded to an alarm but were unable to stay the flames which were burning themselves out when the students assembled at Chapel at 9 o'clock.

Mrs. Henry Durant, widow of the founder of the college, who is ninety years old, witnessed the fire, being taken to the scene in a wheel chair.

Ellen S. Pendleton, president of the college, announced that the college would be closed until the end of the usual spring vacation, April 7. Sessions were to have continued until March 27.

Scores of telegrams asking that money and clothing be sent from their homes were despatched by the students. Officials of the college made arrangements to provide funds for any who were in immediate need, and citizens threw open their homes to the students.

The college telephone switchboard was located in the burned building and telephone connection with the outside world was cut off soon after the fire started.

WELLESLEY FIRE LOSS.

Tragic Features of Recent Blaze Just
Becoming Public.

WELLESLEY, Mass., March 22.—Tragic features of the fire that consumed College Hall last Tuesday became known only to-day when it was announced that the fruits of years of special research work for the advancement of science, which had attracted international attention, had been utterly destroyed.

All notes, specimens and apparatus used in original investigations in the field of eugenics, zoology, embryology and histology were lost, and college officials say it is probable that some of the experiments can never be repeated.



Some views
taken after
the disaster
to College Hall.



250 GIRLS FLEE



WELLESLEY

COLLEGE AFIRE

STUDENTS SAVED BY VOLUNTEERS

Two hundred and fifty girl students at Wellesley College fled for their lives early today, when fire destroyed College Hall, the main building of the college group.

The loss is expected to exceed \$200,000.

Most of the girls escaped from the building in their night clothes, and several were partially overcome by smoke, although no lives were reported lost. The fire started near the roof, and, sweeping from one end of the huge structure to the other, burned down towards the basement.

The girls were hurried or assisted out of the buildings by squads of rescuers, who ran through the halls, smashing in doors and awakening students. Fire gongs were rung on all the floors, and there was a wild scramble to escape.

Dense smoke filled the halls and stairways and the girls were forced to grope their way to the first floor, where they were escorted out of the building and lodged in other dormitories, which were thrown open. Many girls are reported to have lost all their effects, although much personal property was saved by firemen and volunteers.

FORM RESCUE BRIGADES.

How the fire started is a mystery, but it had gained great headway before it was discovered. One of the girls awoke to find her room filled with smoke and she commenced to scream.

Superintendent Austin heard the chorus of cries as the alarm spread through the building and he telephoned to the Wellesley police station.

Patrolman McMahon telephoned to the fire department and when the firemen arrived the roof was blazing fiercely. The noise of the apparatus and firebells awakened scores of people in the vicinity and rescue brigades were hastily formed.

MANY GIRLS HYSTERICAL.

All the available firemen in Wellesley were called to the scene, as the volunteers gave their attention toward saving the girls.

Several men rushed up through the building and did not stop until certain every girl on each of the five floors had been awakened and started on her way out.

The fact that the fire started near the roof probably saved a serious loss of life, as many of the students became hysterical and had to be guided down the stairs.

The majority of the girls tried to maintain a semblance of order in their hasty exit, but the conditions were nerve-racking, and the fire drill went practically for naught.

NEWTON HELP CALLED

Despite the efforts of the firemen the flames continued to spread and half an hour after the fire started the roof and top story of the building was ablaze from end to end.

Help was summoned from Newton and Natick, but the building was apparently doomed from the start.

The fire was a spectacular one. The building, the largest and oldest in the college group, is situated on a hill overlooking the town of Wellesley and the flames, leaping high, were seen for miles.

Persons were attracted to the spot from the surrounding towns and the

girls poured out of the other dormitories.

Preparations were made to care for the girls who had been driven out by the flames and coffee and sandwiches were prepared for them.

College Hall was erected in the early 70s. It is five stories high and 475 feet long. It was the chief hall for lecture rooms and administrative purposes. Over 600 girls have rooms in this building.

The hall is situated on a high hill and overlooks Lake Waban.

Miss Marion Brassington, who is a Wilmington student at Wellesley, came home with the Misses Bach and Miss Mahaffy and will remain with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. John W. Brassington, until summoned to return to Wellesley. Miss Brassington was not in the building that was burned, but was among those who helped to shelter and clothe the girls who lost all their possessions.



The bell "Buddha" which first made known the fire.

HOPE WELLESLEY WILL BE RESTORED

Trio of Local Collegians Are Optimistic Concerning Fire Ruined College Hall.

While no definite information concerning the future of Wellesley College since the fire which destroyed College Hall last Tuesday has been received by the parents of the Wilmington girls who escaped from the disastrous blaze unscathed, they feel that studies will be resumed at the college despite the immense fire loss sustained and the girl students are waiting anxiously for word to return. Mrs. Frederick E. Bach of 828 Jackson street said, today, that she was joined with her two daughters in the belief that all the students would be able to return upon April 7 as they had been told to do by President Ellen F. Pendleton immediately after the fire.

Mrs. William G. Mahaffy of Penny Hill, who had one daughter attending the college, has depended entirely upon the newspapers for information concerning the college and her daughter will remain until word is received that the institution has been reopened. Mrs. Mahaffy is endeavoring to feel optimistic concerning the future of the college as well as Mrs. Bach and the three girl students who are waiting eagerly for summons to return.

Although the loss is placed at \$900,000 with insurance sufficient for only a quarter of the cost of restoration, Mrs. Bach said, today, that the general public is unaware of the great personal losses of the students and especially of the teachers at the college.

"The work that many of the teachers devoted their entire lives to was destroyed," said Mrs. Bach, "and my daughters have told me of many instances where the instructors said that they had no further desire to live after the fire had destroyed valuable manuscripts upon which they had given all their life and ambition. Losses of this nature cannot be very well estimated in figures any more than the great heart suffering the awful fire caused.

"When the girls were gathered together after the fire the college president told them that they could return April 7, but of course all we can do is to simply wait until we receive some official word. One of my daughters was in the doomed building when the fire was discovered and the other had gone to the superintendent's building. They are both anxious to return despite the experience they had and we are all hoping from the very bottom of our hearts that College Hall will be restored although it will be impossible to restore a major portion of the loss."

The Misses Bach and Mahaffy were the only students at Wellesley from Delaware and returned here immediately after the fire.

Right Rev. William Lawrence, president of the college executive committee, said today that he would call the trustees together within a few days in order to take definite action in putting the college into working order. He said that the officers were completely at sea as to what steps should be taken.

Speaking of the damage caused by the fire, Bishop Lawrence said: "Every laboratory is gone; there is not a lecture-room or recitation-room left; the college has not an instrument for conducting an experiment in chemistry or physics. All the scientific collections which have been 40 years gathering are lost. Some of them were priceless; all of them were necessary for doing the daily work of these departments.

"The excellent business methods of the college kept the building insured at the highest amount the insurance companies would accept, but on a building 40 years old, of obsolete construction, the utmost insurance that could be placed is pitifully inadequate to replace the equipment and facilities which have been destroyed."

Victim of Wellesley Fire



Miss Anna Reeder was one of the Philadelphia students at Wellesley who escaped in her bathrobe and pumps when fire started in the college. Miss Reeder is at the home of her mother, Mrs. George A. Piersol, 4724 Chester Avenue. She arrived in this city in clothing borrowed from another student for the trip. Her room was in the wing where the fire was discovered.

WELLESLEY GIRLS HOME, TELL OF FIRE

Invalidate Department Stores Here
to Replace Wardrobes Lost
When College Burned.

The first thing Miss Anna Reeder, of this city, and Miss Marion Mulford, of Wayne, Wellesley seniors, did upon arrival at their homes yesterday was to make a round of the shops and replenish their wardrobes which had been destroyed when College Hall, the oldest of the Wellesley buildings was burned Tuesday. Hats, shoes, suits and other articles of feminine apparel poured into their homes all day.

Miss Reeder is a daughter of Mrs. George A. Piersol, 4724 Chester Avenue, chairman of the Woman Suffrage party of the County of Philadelphia. The daughter has won many honors in her studies and in athletics at Wellesley.

Praises Fire Drilling.

The room in which Miss Reeder was sleeping at the time of the fire was below the room where the blaze started. In describing her experiences she said that the splendid fire drill which is in force at the college was responsible for the saving of all lives. So accustomed had they become to being awakened at an early hour for drills that when the fire alarm sounded they went through the usual routine and discovered the building was afire only after leaving it.

"It was about five o'clock in the morning when the alarm was sounded," she said, "We were asleep and when the alarm was sounded, we jumped out of bed, closed the windows, turned on the lights and slipped on kimono and slippers, formed into groups of twenty and followed the leaders out of the building to the campus. I was clad in a bathrobe and slippers."

Loses Wardrobe.

"When I left the campus the building was a smouldering ruin. Every stitch of clothing except those that I wore was burned. I borrowed an outfit from a friend. To-day I am busy furnishing a new wardrobe."

A funny incident of the fire was related by Miss Reeder. "In the march from the building one of the girls dropped a coat hanger which she had snatched up with her clothes when the alarm sounded. Miss Reeder picked it up and carried it from the building. When her classmates saw the hanger they cheered lustily, hailing her as a 'heroine' for having rescued it from the flames."

Miss Mulford reached the home of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. H. K. Mulford, at Wayne, yesterday.

"You would not want to undergo such an experience as that again?" was suggested to Miss Mulford.

"Well, I would not want to lose all my things at that hour of the morning again, no," she replied, "but there was nothing particularly exciting and no one became very much excited about the fire."

Miss Mulford said that the building that burned was originally the single building in which Wellesley and all its departments were housed.

No Excitement.

"My room was on the fourth floor. I do not know whether the fire started on the fourth or fifth floor. We had been thoroughly drilled for fires. Every girl was instructed to close the window first, turn on the lights and get a coat; then leave the room."

"I found the hallways brightly lighted when I walked from my room. A Boston paper said there was a great deal of excitement, but this was not true. Everything occurred in such a calm matter-of-fact way as we marched down the brightly-lighted halls and stairways and as the roll was called that no one thought of getting excited."

WELLESLEY "GRADS" PLAN AID AT LUNCH

Alumnae Attend Annual Meeting
at Rittenhouse Hotel, and Ar-
range to Contribute to Repair
Fire Damage.

The annual luncheon of the Philadelphia Wellesley Club took place yesterday afternoon at the Rittenhouse Hotel, at which plans were approved for restoration of the buildings destroyed or damaged in the recent fire there, and offers were made to assist in raising the \$1,000,000 endowment fund deemed necessary for maintenance.

The college buildings will be ready to be occupied again April 7 and it is expected the new administration building, ground for which was broken last Thursday, will be ready for occupancy May 1. It is to contain the administration offices and 20 classrooms.

Miss Dorothy C. Mills, of the class of '09, was the luncheon toastmistress, being presented by the president, Miss Jennie Ritner Beale, in a short address. Miss Julia T. Irvine, who was president of Wellesley from 1894 to 1899 and is now head of the French department, was guest of honor.

Mrs. George Baron Wood, chairman of the Philadelphia Endowment Fund Committee, urged the alumnae to distribute pledge cards among people of wealth likely to respond to an appeal for funds. Several pledges were made at the luncheon, but were not handed in, so that they could be added to the approximate \$1500 now under pledge to the local committee.

Miss Elizabeth R. Hirsh read a "Toast to the Spirit of College Hall," and Miss Anna Reeder, of the class of '14, who was at Wellesley during the fire, told of some incidents and also told of valuable records lost by the geology, physics, psychology and philosophy, history, mathematics and language departments. A short talk was made by Mrs. Candace Stimson, '92, of New York city, chairman of the General \$1,000,000 Fund Committee. The luncheon guests were:

Dorothy C. Mills	Michael, Executive
Dorothy Williams	Committee, Philadel-
Madeline R. Erskine	phia Wellesley Club.
Ruth Sener	Candace Stimson
Anna S. Kent	Mrs. Edith S. Wasser-
Marion Mackinlay	man
Helen M. Adair, Y. M.	Mrs. E. N. Hartman
C. A. work	Harriet M. Blake
Fanny Loos	Mrs. George B. Wood,
Florence R. Davis	chairman Philadel-
Jean Webber	phia Endowment
Elizabeth P. Longaker,	Fund Committee.
secretary and treas-	Mrs. Cornelius Wey-
urer Phila. Wellesley	gandt
Club	Mrs. Robert C. Baues
Ella H. MacKay	Mrs. John Beakson
Rebecca Griest	Mary D. Newcomb
Anna B. Herr	Mary Adele Evans
Katherine Price	Edith La Rue Jones
Rachel Keator	Mrs. Grace F. Welmer
Anne Christensen	Mrs. Helen J. O'Brien
Rea Schimpeler	Mrs. Mary H. Van Al-
Dorothy Schmucker	len
Doris Fenton	Lillian C. Jones
Helen South	Jennie Ritner Beale,
Alice Shoemaker	president of Philadel-
Anna Reeder	phia Wellesley Club.
Rachel F. Longaker	Jessie C. Evans
Phyllis K. Lean	Vinnie B. Bentley
Jean H. Miller	Alice M. Holbrook
Linda B. Henly	Helen Garwood
Elizabeth R. Hirsh	Mrs. E. S. Saylor
Edna E. Hughes	Jessie M. Braley
Elizabeth Case	Dorothy Holland
Helen Husted	Caroline J. Porter
Laura Lacy	Mrs. Evelyn Taft Miles
Mildred Hoopes	Eliza J. Newkirk
J. Maryfrank Gardner	Ruth P. Ring
Carrie M. Wolf	Katherine Andrews Gay
Helen McKinney	Mary G. Tyler
Elizabeth Roop	Sarah Graham
Dorothea B. Jones	Jane Button
Linda McLain	Florence Evans
Pauline Ehrlich	Lucille Gren
Electa Griffiths	Mrs. Evangeline Lu-
Helen Williams	kens Harvey
Clara Taft	Laura G. Hibbs
Ruth Hartley	Mrs. Mary Hall Bene-
Helen R. Buchanan	dict
Emily H. Porter	Eleanor P. Monroe
Lida Brant	Mrs. Amos Sudler
Charlotte Evans	Marion E. Potter
Helene Wolff	Anna M. Scott
M. Blanche Price	Mrs. Elsie R. Stager
Katherine Zeller	Helen Button
Katherine Balderston	Mrs. Charles M. Potts
Emma Salom	Mrs. Margaret K. Wil-
Isabelle Case	son
Emma Barrett	Rachel Psawn
Dorothy Spellissy	Charlotte R. Thomas
Anna C. Longaker	Sarah Schafer
Frances P. Wright	Martha Hughes
Claire Miller	Anne I. Crawford
Lucille Smith, Ottawa,	Mrs. Edith Ellison
Ont.	Neal
Gladys H. Williams	Helen S. Knowles
Elizabeth O. Pinchback	Gertrude M. Williams
Grace W. Nelson	Grace Kimball
Emily Allyn	Eleanor Frances Fricke
Helen D. Harbeson	Esther M. Watson
Mrs. W. M. Champe	Alice Byrne
Miss Ella E. Ames	Elizabeth D. Hoffman,
Dr. Ruth Webster	member Executive
Lathrop	Committee Philadel-
Henrietta Leypold	phia Wellesley Club.
Elizabeth Braley	Edna B. Blood
Mrs. Stella W. Barnes	Mary McM. Siney
Mrs. Mary Bean Jones	Jeanette Kelm
Mrs. Thomas H. Car-	Ruth Reeder

A suggestion made that members of the Wellesley senior class minimize expenses in the preparation of their graduating gowns, devoting the excess money to the endowment fund, met with general approval and resulted in some good-natured badinage among the members.



The fire in progress!



WELLESLEY GIRLS ESCAPE FIRE

Discipline, Coolness and Bravery
Mark Departure From Burn-
ing Building.

350 IN BED AT THE TIME

Property Loss Will Be in the
Neighborhood of
\$900,000.

WELLESLEY, Mass., March 17.—Perfect discipline, coolness and bravery on the part of the students and faculty members prevented any loss of life or injury when College Hall, the oldest of the Wellesley College buildings, was burned to-day.

Two hundred and fifty young women students, fifty instructors and fifty maids were in their beds when the fire was discovered. Everyone was saved and none of the scores who marched in an orderly procession through smoke-filled hallways suffered so much as a scratch.

The building was left a blackened shell by the flames. Within its crumbled walls was wreckage representing a loss of \$900,000. Of this amount \$100,000 was the estimated value of the personal property of the inmates, nearly all of whom left in scanty attire. Louis K. Morse, treasurer of the board of trustees, said to-night that the college would recover perhaps \$600,000 of its loss through insurance.

Miss Ellen Fitz Pendleton, president of the institution, said:

"Although we have not as yet made any definite plans to rebuild College Hall, we shall, of course, erect another structure in the near future."

On account of the fire the entire college was ordered closed until April 7, the end of the regular Easter recess. Nearly 1,000 of the 1,300 young women had left for their homes to-night. Many who had rooms in College Hall went in borrowed clothing.

President Pendleton took occasion to praise "the sanity and courage shown by the students in leaving the burning building as extraordinary."



Showing
a full-length
view of
the
corridor

Rescued
from
the ruins!

MEAL ORDER

Date

Name

Room

MEAL ORDER

Date

Meal

ne



Before !



After !!!



The thrilling view
as seen from
the Quadrangle.





When College Hall
is almost consumed.



A view
from the
Eastern End.

WHEN FIRE-GONGS SUMMON WOMEN

CALM and Sane Behavior of Girls at Wellesley College and in Newark Factory Disproves the Common Assertion in Regard to Their Excitability in Times of Danger—The Use of the Fire Drill Proved by Such Instances

WHY are people always surprised when women keep their heads in an emergency? Tradition is a faithful servant and hard to dismiss. The history of the emotions, or demonstrations thereof, of women would make a fascinating book and a life-work for some one. All other histories might hinge upon it. Was it Eve who made the loudest outcry or fainted the most "dead away" when she and Adam were leaving the Garden? Of course, it is true and trite that the position of woman determines the degree of civilization in her country or her tribe. No less does her self-control determine many things. It pleases the reader of the sensational and the teller of garnished tales to believe in the Eternal Hysteria, and to cite highly colored instances of the shriek, the faint, the drowning grab, the omni-present birdcage! And then once in a great while a headline runs wild across two or three times its legitimate space, bearing to the astounded and vaguely disappointed public-at-large the message of incredulous bravery and coolness of women in a crisis!

Two cases of the level-headedness of women when in positions of very near and real danger have been forcibly put before people within the last week. How can they ever again doubt? In one case the women were factory-workers; in the other case they were college-girls. The two little spheres of girls, factory and college, are connected. They are both made up of girls, they both are made up of level-headed girls, and they both have fire-drills. Level-headedness is splendid; level-headed girls, and they both have more so. The combination saved more than 400 girls in the fire last Saturday in the building of the H. & W. Waist Company's factory at 69 Clinton Street, Newark. And it saved 350 girls and women at Wellesley College on Tuesday morning.

AT THE SOUND OF THE GONG.

It is all a matter of habit; at college it grows to be the most natural and non-startling thing in the world to jump out of bed in the middle of the night at the sound of a significant gong; to seize a towel and jerk down the window and run sleepily down the corridors and the stairs to the front hall, where a great waste of sleepy faces greet each other stoically. After one hears one's own voice say, "Here," one takes the towel back again and shoves up the window. And at breakfast those who have managed to slip in before the door closed grumble pleasantly together, over their morning rations, at the inconvenience and inconsiderateness of fire-drills.

"It is too absurd!" says the girl on your right.

"It is an outrage!" says the girl across the table. "And last night was my History 79 night, and I was up half the night, any way. Really and truly, girls, I speak in all seriousness, there is no such thing as rest or a minute to yourself in this place!"

Business of general sighs and weariness and outraged but enduring dispositions, and the day's work is on. But how very convenient it would have been, had there been a real fire that night, for them all to have found themselves in the front hall and about to step into the cool air, even though they had neglected to bring down their "wraps," instead of awaking in their beds, to be burned alive.

Two things have never been solved by the average college mind concerning fire drills and fire precautions in general. One of these is the towel! Why that towel? As yet the mystery is as dense as ever, and quite as unsolvable as the out-of-the-window-noose-effect which hangs concealed behind one's beautifully toned and draped window hangings. To be sure, hanging with it is a small but

accurate picture, one might almost say photograph, of a man in action, suspended half-way between the window and the coveted ground, safe and brown and firm. The ground is quite the most natural and alluring part of these little pictures which hang behind every well-regulated college girl's window hangings. But, some way, the picture gives one little practical assistance, little confidence in one's own limbs, which have been so long accustomed to staying *inside*, and not outside, the window. It was bad enough to swing free from the "Gym" balcony, when rehearsals for the feat were being held; and then one was encouraged by friendly voices, held and supported and urged on and over by shoving, restraining arms from below and above. This would be far worse; the top floor of a campus house is so different from the "Gym" balcony, and so infinitely more isolated, aidless, and without comfort.

WHAT WAS DONE AT WELLESLEY.

And right here, let it be said, in defence of Wellesley, and to give that great college its due, that the girls were not bade to "put on your wraps" at five o'clock last Tuesday morning. It is all a mistake. Miss Virginia Moffatt, one of the two girls who discovered the fire, and promptly did the right thing next, says so herself.

"Did you really go around saying, 'Put on your wraps?'" Miss Moffatt was asked, as she slid modestly through the gate separating the trains from those who wait for the trains last Wednesday at the Grand Central. Miss Moffatt was visibly startled; probably it was the first time of the fifteen times that Miss Moffatt has slid through that gate (for she is a senior and counting up vacations proves the number correct), that she had been confronted by such an abrupt and leading question.

Miss Moffatt is so small that she might almost be a sophomore, and she was dressed in her own gray chinchilla coat and what seemed to be her own hat. In this she was distinguishable from the other Wellesley girls who came through the gate with her and from all those others who lived in College Hall and lost everything that belonged to them.

"Oh, no, I never said that!" answered Miss Moffatt, gravely. "You see, it was this way. While the other girl went to tell the matron, I rang the fire alarm, and no one needed to go to the girls' doors at all. But you know we're all pledged not to tell any college news, so I can't talk about it." And Miss Moffatt, who does not realize the possibilities of being a fire heroine, went home to her four (instead of two) weeks' Easter vacation.

Another senior tells the story a little more fully. "The girls were perfect soldiers, all of them. It all went off beau-

tifully, and was just like a fire drill. There was nothing saved at all in the way of girls' belongings, but we saved almost all of the books in the College Hall library. We formed lines and passed them along. As soon as we were out of the building, of course, we just stood around wildly; then finally we went to the other dormitories for borrowed clothes and hot coffee. Then we all went to chapel as if nothing had happened, at least, we went as soon as the books were safe. The bank opened to us, and we drew money, with our families as security. We hope we can get back by April 7."

What Miss Moffatt, in her scant Grand Central avowal, neglects to mention is that she and Miss Charlotte Donnell, of Wiscasset, Me., in their rooms just below the fourth-floor laboratory, where the fire originated, were the first ones to know about it, and that they very sensibly rang the fire alarm, as if for a fire drill, and also took the matron into their confidence. Miss Olive Davis, director of halls and residences, called the roll, and those few girls who were not there were called from their rooms. Probably it is here that the "wraps" story comes in.

QUICK THOUGHT AND ACTION.

College Hall was the oldest building of Wellesley College, and the one in which the administrative business of the College went on, as well as the dormitory life of about 350 girls. The loss is about \$1,500,000 in money, and not inconsiderable in values associated with the oldest building of any college. It was built in 1871, and was of brick and stone, with wooden interior. Now it is a shell. But compared to what the loss would have been without the quick thought and sane action of the two girls, and without the customary reaction to the fire alarm on the part of the other students, the loss is very small. The secretary to the dean, Miss Mary Smith, of West Chester, Pa., saved most of the dean's records by dashing into the office on the first floor after the office had ceased to be a safe place. The girls' fire brigade was responsible for the escape of everyone from the building, after they had been called. Miss Muriel Arthur, 1915, of Detroit, was the leader of the brigade, and under her were leaders of squads, who rounded up details of 20 girls each when the alarm was heard. They called the roll, and then marched them to the campus. The whole 350 had left the building inside of four minutes.

THE DIFFERENCE IN GIRLS.

A woman who has two daughters, one a college girl, and one not, was asked the difference between them. This is what she said:

"There is a big difference, and it is rather hard to explain. But my daughter who went to college seems to know

how to go at things a little better, how to take up different things, and how to adjust herself." She did not say that she met emergencies better, and perhaps she did not, for the Newark factory girls met theirs just as well as the Wellesley girls. But an instance of another group of college girls in a disaster can not be kept out of mind right here. Last spring about four hundred seniors at another large woman's college were arranged on a tremendous "bleacher." Their senior class picture had just been taken, and they were still arranged in proper attitude with due regard to light and shade and expression. Suddenly, the bleacher began to crack and break. The worst of it was that all the four hundred had been half-jestingly expecting this very thing. And some of them had been frightened. But when they knew it really was going to happen, they were either not frightened, or just braced themselves, and did not show their fright. The bleacher went down, and every girl on it. No one was very seriously hurt, though there were many bruises. There was not one shriek or scream or panic while the framework was going, or afterwards. The girls all scrambled to their feet, and either laughed or looked about for some one to help. They all saw or felt the crash coming, and they were all prepared for it, stayed perfectly still in their places, and went down.

THE ALARM IN THE FACTORY.

But the Newark factory girls also knew how to adjust themselves. The four hundred girls had just been having a fire-drill before the day's work began, and were just settling down to work, when the firm alarm rang again, and most of them thought it was just a repetition of the drill. Many of them reached the street before they knew anything about the fire, although it was a four-alarm one, and there was a loss of \$200,000 in-

involved. The girls were on the fourth floor, but not one was hurt.

But fire-drills are still not appreciated and enforced as they should be. Sarah W. H. Christopher, Fire Prevention Adviser of the Cotton Garment Manufacturers of New York, writes in an article published in the current *Fire Prevention*:

"Again, the law on fire drills, deemed an absolute necessity for the safety of people in factory buildings, is not being lived up to, although the statute has been in effect since October, 1913, and it is safe to say that less than 10 per cent. of the factories in New York city have voluntarily established fire-drills. They await some order or direction from the authorities to obey the law. Fire drills are not welcomed by the average factory owner or piece-worker, to whom fifteen minutes' time spent once a month in a fire drill is an irreparable loss.

"Early in the game I realized the futility of an appeal to the ethical side of the average manufacturer in the matter of fire drills—the saving of human life was a minor detail with many of them. Time was money, and fire drills meant loss of time. It behooved me to appeal to their pocketbooks, rather than to their hearts. Therefore, I proceeded to inform them of the law on the subject—that the installation and maintenance of a regular monthly fire drill was mandatory, and that, if they conducted the drill with reasonable frequency and success, keeping a proper record of same, and afterwards an actual fire occurred, at which the previously trained employees became panic-stricken and stampeded, the employer, having complied with the law, and exercised reasonable care, could not be held legally responsible for injuries suffered. This was common-sense, not parlor socialism, and served as the entering wedge.

"From the foregoing, it can readily be understood that the lot of one employed in the carrying out of fire-prevention and factory laws is not an enviable one. The success of these laws will depend largely on the education of the public to an appreciation of their value; so that obedience to them will be as instinctive as is our obedience to laws prohibiting murder, perjury, theft, etc. The unfortunate condition concerning these laws is that the people of this city and State have gotten into the habit of demanding 100 per cent. efficiency from the various departments of government, but only allowing said departments 30 per cent. equipment to obtain the desired results, and are everlastingly damning the unfortunate official who may be at the head of such department when a disaster occurs."





THE CENTRE, COLLEGE HALL,
WELLESLEY COLLEGE.



Entrance from South Door.



Center, showing all but the
fifth floor.



Centre in Ruins.



A Favorite View of College Hall.



Our College Hall in Ruins.



THE FIRE.

The daily papers have already carried to Wellesley Alumnæ the news that College Hall was destroyed, in the early morning of March seventeenth, by a fire that burned with incredible rapidity, sweeping from the upper floors of the west end of the building to the east and consuming the whole interior, with flames of spectacular fierceness. There was no panic, no confusion, no delay. In a household of two hundred and sixteen not one life was lost, nor was any person injured. These college women were calm, intrepid, and magnificently thoughtless of self. During the entire ordeal there was but one spirit manifested,—an invincible loyalty to their training. We all have reason to be proud that Wellesley's officers and students triumphed in this time of severest trial. Those who were not in the midst of the danger can scarcely appreciate the strength and courage of those who have given us a priceless tradition of heroic self-control.

It is impossible to tell the details of a catastrophe that came with such overwhelming rapidity, for each survivor saw different aspects and had different experiences from others. It is equally impossible to give the names of all those who in one way or another displayed courage and presence of mind. Who first discovered the fire will be unknown, for several people were awakened almost simultaneously. The first warning was given a little after half-past four. Two students on the fourth floor, room 440 (formerly 144) were awakened by smoke and saw reflected in their transom the glow of fire in the zoological laboratory across the corridor. One went to find the watchman, the other to arouse Miss Tufts and Miss Davis. While they were doing this, another girl had begun to ring the Japanese bell. Miss Tufts hurried to

the switchboard on the first floor to arouse President Pendleton. Miss Davis went to the first floor and stationed a girl under the master clock to ring the fast-fire alarm, which means a continuous clanging of the gongs that have marked recitation periods. The strident sound aroused nearly every one in the house and, instantly obedient to their training in fire-drills, the students threw on kimonos or heavy coats and went down to the first floor Center. Some thought it was an ordinary fire-drill, but many must have realized the truth, for they were barefooted. On the staircase stood Miss Davis, waiting to superintend the roll-call. Grouped around the Center, where the morning before they had thronged to cheer the winners and the losers in the debate with Mount Holyoke, and, at the end, to cheer with heartiest enthusiasm Miss Pendleton and the Wellesley spirit, those girls, with splendid composure, responded to the accustomed discipline of fire-drill. They were ordered to take the places they always occupied in the drill, and each lieutenant rapidly called the roll of the squad of about twenty girls for whom she was responsible, and then reported to Miss Davis whether or not all were present.

After the first report was given and Miss Davis had been notified regarding missing persons (whom she sought, later, in their rooms), she gave the order to go, but fearing that there might be some omission she called upon the girls to halt and be sure that they had forgotten no one. The group obeyed implicitly Miss Davis' command to wait. While the girls waited for the roll there was no sign of emotional excitement among them. According to the rules, the word "fire" was not spoken. There was some murmur of conversation, but this was immediately hushed, and there were a few seconds apparently when the only sound was the ominous one of falling heavy brands. The red glow became more and more menacing, casting a lurid glare over

the interior, and sparks and burning embers began to sprinkle in the Center, some of them falling on the hair and on the shoulders of the girls. When the second report had been given, the order came for them to march to safety. Across the Center they moved in good order and passed out through the two windows at the side of the front (north) door, the door itself remaining closed. A few students went out the south door. No one can tell precisely how long an interval passed, but the evidence seems to indicate that in less than ten minutes after the fire was discovered, all the students were out of the building.

Once outside, they saw the flames on the fourth floor, west, increasing in brightness and leaping up into the air, with very little smoke. It was natural that students should hope that they might be allowed to go back to rescue certain possessions, family pictures and other irreplaceable things, but there was no protest or murmur when they were forbidden to re-enter the building. The wisdom of this order was proved when it was discovered how rapidly the fire was spreading.

While Miss Davis was marshalling the students, various members of the staff were busy in the effort to warn and help others. Miss Calkins, who had spent the night in her office on the fifth floor, was awakened by smoke and she hastened down the west staircase to call Miss Case, but found that Miss Case was already up and had herself awakened Miss Smith. After helping Miss Case to the first floor, carrying her chair for her, Miss Calkins knocked at doors and helped arouse students on her way to Mrs. Irvine's room in the second Center. Getting no response to her knocking and finding the door locked, Miss Calkins determined to find a man with an ax and soon had the door broken in. It was found that the room had not been occupied the night before. Miss Tufts, after coming from the telephone office, went at once to rooms of members of the Faculty on the third floor, west, not knowing that Miss Calkins had already been there, and then made a circuit of rooms on the second floor where lived members of the domestic department. At the east end and elsewhere, one member of the Faculty had been helping another, the students having already informed some of them that it was a real fire. A sense of responsibility for the safety of others was shown repeatedly. One member of the staff, who had been ill, was called twice by the same student.

Hurried investigation having shown that every resident of College Hall was accounted for, attention was turned to the work of saving property.

Miss Mary Frazer Smith, Secretary to the Dean, went to the key-board, then standing in the front yard, seized the key to the Dean's office and, with the aid of Mr. Monaghan, rescued all the records of students' marks from 1875 to the present day. Placing these most valuable academic documents in an automobile, she carried them to the President's house, where several members of the Faculty came to seek refuge. Miss Pendleton, at the first call, had hurried to the building, and assured that all lives were saved, devoted herself to the welfare of students, anxious to save them from unnecessary exposure.

The Wellesley Fire Department had responded gallantly to the call, but they found the water pressure insufficient to force the streams to the heart of the flames. Help from Natick and from Newton arrived quickly and these engines pumped water from the lake, but it was soon apparent that nothing could prevail against the terrible onset of the flames. The building was doomed. The firemen, the men employed by the College, and several generous men from Wellesley Village worked with frantic haste to save whatever could be rescued. Some of the students had gone to nearby houses to get clothing and had returned again, but many refused to go away, so determined were they to help in any way possible. A long fire-line was formed by the undergraduates, rapidly arriving, and this line, which extended from the front of College Hall down to the Library, passed along to safety many books, papers, and various other objects taken from the Center and from departmental offices at the east end of the building. Almost nothing was saved above the first floor.

As Miss Pendleton patrolled the fire-line her energetic questioning was met by every student, even by those who were still barefooted, with the immediate response: "I'm perfectly comfortable, Miss Pendleton," "I'm perfectly all right, Miss Pendleton." It is impossible to praise too much the way in which the students and the older women triumphed over discomfort, anxiety, and personal losses. Instead of mourning, they devoted themselves to the service of others, and by their indefatigable efforts helped to rescue many precious things that would otherwise have perished.

In the Center, desperate energy was shown. Desks were carried out from the president's office, and from the registrar's, some pictures were snatched from the walls, much was saved from the Browning

room, but it was soon highly unsafe for the firemen to stay. The crash of falling brick and timber, the terrible intensity of heat and of red fire, forced the fire chief to drive his men down to the east end of the building, and Wellesley women saw the Center vanish. Tongues of flame that had been creeping around ceilings and walls, curling in and out of the balustrades of the staircases, leaped into tempestuous waves. The palms shrivelled and cracked, sending out strange colors as they disappeared. Harriet Martineau, who had sat spectral and silent in this tumult, was crushed and broken by falling bricks and sank through the floor of fire.

At about 5 o'clock a person coming from the hill saw College Hall burning between the dining-room and Center, apparently from the third floor up to the roof, in high, clear flames with very little smoke. Suddenly the whole top seemed to catch fire at once and the blaze rushed downward and upward, leaping into the dull gray atmosphere of a foggy morning. With a terrific crash the roof fell in, and soon every window in the front of College Hall was filled with roaring flames, surging towards the east, framed in the dark red brick wall which served to accentuate the lurid glow that had seized and held a building almost one-eighth of a mile long. The roar of devastating fury, the crackle of brands, the smell of burning wood and melting iron, filled the air, but almost no sound came from the human beings who saw the irre-

pressible blaze consume everything but the brick walls.

The old library and the chapel were soon filled with great billows of flame, which, finding more space for action, made a spectacle of majestic but awful splendor. Eddies of fire crept along the black-walnut bookcases, and all that dark framework of our beloved old library. By great strides the blaze advanced, until innumerable curling, writhing flames were rioting all through a spot always hushed "in the quiet and still air of delightful studies." The fire raged across the walls, in and around the sides and the beautiful curving tops of the windows that for so many springs and summers had framed spaces of green grass, on which fitful shadows had fallen, to be dreamed over by generations of students. In the chapel, tremendous waves swelled and glowed, reaching almost from floor to ceiling as they erased the texts from the walls, demolished the stained-glass windows, defaced, but did not completely destroy the College motto **graven over them, and, in convulsive gusts**

swept from end to end of the chapel, pouring in and out of the windows in brilliant light and color. Seen from the campus below, the burning east end of the building loomed up magnificent even in the havoc and desolation it was suffering.

The Faculty parlor was one of the last places to be consumed. The gilding and fresco work yielded slowly to the blaze and created appallingly beautiful color effects. In the midst of the seething mass of flame, the white marble statue of Elaine was seen, turning upon her pivot in almost human distress, before the floor opened and dashed her down. The fact that the night had been misty probably saved the oaks from destruction, and undoubtedly the absence of strong wind was the salvation of other buildings on the campus; perhaps the safety of Wellesley Village depended upon the quiet dampness of the atmosphere, for in yards and on roofs a mile away, charred embers were found that morning.

When members of the Faculty in the village, aroused too late to be of help, reached the campus, at about 7.30, they found it almost deserted, except for a few strangers, and for the stray pieces of furniture standing about. Here was a piano, there a desk. Busts of Homer and of others peered out from the lowest branches of the hemlocks, and men with carts were rapidly removing to the barn whatever remained out of doors. The students had dispersed for breakfast, and a heavy silence hung over Wellesley College.

At 8.30, the usual hour, service was held in the chapel, which was so thronged that many had to stand. The service was, perhaps, the most impressive ever held at Wellesley. President Pendleton, in her academic robes, appeared upon the platform, her strength and resolute courage made clear by her perfect composure. The atmosphere was tense, but there were no tears, no nervous whisperings, nothing to show what a terrible ordeal some of the worshippers had survived. A serene gravity and quiet marked the attitude of all present. The choir, many of whom had, only three hours earlier, escaped from the burning building, marched up the aisle, singing,

"O God, our help in ages past."

After the responsive reading of Psalm xci, beginning, "He that dwelleth in the secret place of the Most High shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty," Miss Pendleton read a brief passage from the end of Romans VIII, concluding in a voice of unforgettable exaltation.

"For I am persuaded, that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord."

After a brief prayer of thankfulness for the preservation of so many lives, Miss Pendleton announced that College was suspended, and that all students who could reach home by night were requested to go as soon as possible, to leave room for the sufferers. She spoke of the prompt and generous offers of assistance from the Town of Wellesley, of the arrangements made by the Wellesley bank and by the Boston & Albany Railroad for assisting the speedy departure of the students; she announced the plan of delivery of College Hall mail, and then came an announcement which struck the note that has been dominant ever since, and that, more than anything else, revealed the splendid poise and determination of our President. She stated that the spring term would begin at the time already set, April 7, and charged all students to register in the Library by 1 o'clock that day. Nothing could have been a better challenge to College loyalty. Instead of yielding to discouragement and despair, she made her hearers feel that there was work to do, and that the first duty of all was to rally undaunted to support our academic life, allowing no obstacle to stand in the way of completing the College year.

Singing the recessional,

"Who trusts in God, a strong abode,
In heaven and earth possesses,"

the choir marched out, the College dispersed quietly, and plans were begun for meeting the most momentous crisis in the history of the College. The schedule officer sat down to write out from memory the schedule of June examinations which had been posted the day before; mail for the residents in College Hall was delivered in the Library at half-past nine; at half-past ten, agents of the Boston and Albany Railroad were holding office hours in the Library. At 11 o'clock, a short meeting of the Faculty was held in Billings Hall. By the middle of the afternoon nearly all the students had departed, and the campus was deserted except by strangers, come to see the ruins. To-day the walls up to the fourth floor, and, in many places, of the fourth floor itself, are standing. The kitchen, the old gymnasium wing, and the new dormitory for servants are intact, saved by the iron fire-wall put in to protect College Hall from the kitchen.

The ruined walls have an impressive dignity, for they are singularly unblackened. That hollow shell, with its jagged outlines and black window spaces, conceals a mass of wreckage of indescribable value; family papers and heirlooms, furniture, clothes, books, lecture notes, records, syllabi, photographs, have all vanished into ashes. The losses to the departments of geology, zoology,

psychology, and physics seem overwhelming. Teachers have lost work that embodied the results of years of study and investigation. Details of these losses will be given in later issues of COLLEGE NEWS, as it is impossible at present to form any correct estimate of what was destroyed. It is enough to say that beyond a very few garments and books, the occupants of College Hall lost everything.

There is a certain majesty in the desolation of a place where for almost thirty-nine years the invisible flame of aspiring intellectual life has been kept alight. This building which has been home to so many of us, in which for years all College exercises were conducted, was the very heart of our College life. Each of us has memories too poignant and too personal to share. We remember the places in recitation room, library, or chapel, where there came those moments of high spiritual quest, when through the guidance of teachers, lecturers, preachers, or books, we first realized the power of the individual to triumph over difficulties and achieve some share of eternal truth. Can these

things vanish, these memories that have been so deeply associated with College Hall? We look at these ruins with eyes that are still uncomprehending. An intellectual stronghold has perished; the home, the central hearth of Wellesley College is in ruins, and a great tradition will be dead unless the daughters of Wellesley help to rebuild her walls. In brick and stone and timber we can give material expression to our pride in Wellesley's past and our faith in her future. No money can restore College Hall with all its associations, but what that building has meant to us, other buildings will mean to younger women, if we who hope for the continuance of Wellesley's best traditions do our duty. For the sake of those who have lost all their possessions, for the sake of old memories, for the sake of that spiritual quickening which has come to us through our years of residence in Wellesley College, let us give generously, gladly, and at once.

AN ALUMNA.

It is probable that an account of the fire drill at Wellesley will be given in some later issue of the NEWS, with a history of its development from the drills of twenty years ago to the present time.

This number of the NEWS is being sent to all Alumnae and former students. The Board of Editors, during their absence from College, kindly permitted Alumnae in Wellesley to prepare this issue.

A LETTER FROM PRESIDENT PENDLETON.

March 28, 1914.

Dear Wellesley Friends:—

The unbelievable is true. College Hall is a ruin. But it is stately and majestic in its desolation, and it inspires us to face the future with courage. While we rejoice that no life was lost, we must grieve that College Hall, which was the visible habitation of precious memories and dear associations, is gone; but we know that no fire can take from us Wellesley women our heritage, invisible but steadfast.

Besides residence for two hundred and sixteen people, College Hall contained twenty-eight recitation rooms, an assembly hall (the old chapel), a study hall (the old library), the laboratories of the departments of geology, psychology, physics, and zoology, administrative offices, offices of twenty departments (that is, all except those of art, astronomy, chemistry, hygiene and music), and luncheon and cloak rooms for non-resident Faculty and students.

You will be glad to know that College Hall with its equipment was appraised by experts about a year ago; this means that the College has recovered the largest possible sum through insurance, but it is pitifully inadequate. It is estimated that we shall need more than two million dollars to replace with separate buildings the accommodations furnished by College Hall. The insurance will yield about six hundred thousand dollars. When we had College Hall we needed more dormitory accommodation; we need it now more than ever. Our campaign for the Million Dollar Endowment Fund must not be dropped. We must obtain the whole to secure the sum of two hundred thousand dollars promised by the General Education Board. We have between five and six hundred thousand dollars still to raise. All the new buildings must be equipped and maintained. The sum that our Alma Mater requires for immediate needs is two million dollars. But this is not all. Another million will soon be needed, properly to house our departments of botany and chemistry, to provide a student-alumnae building, and sufficient dormitories to house on the campus the more than five hundred students now living in the village. We are facing a great crisis in the history of the College. The future of our Alma Mater is in our hands. Crippled by this loss, Wellesley cannot continue to hold in the future its place in the front rank of colleges, unless the response is generous and immediate.

To sum up, Alma Mater needs three million dollars, two million of which must be raised immediately. Shall we be daunted by this sum? We are justly proud of the courage and self-control of those dwellers in College Hall, both Faculty and students. Shall we be outdone by them in facing a crisis? Shall we be less courageous, less resourceful? The public press has described the fire as a triumph, not a disaster. Shall we continue the triumph, and make our College in equipment what it has proved itself in spirit—The College Beautiful? We can and we must.

Faithfully yours,

ELLEN F. PENDLETON.

A WAY IN WHICH ALL CAN BE HELPFUL.

It should be understood that biographical records of former members of the College are almost a total loss. One office copy of the Wellesley Record, published in December, 1912, was saved;—not however, the annotated copy which brought the material down to the date of the fire. The files of COLLEGE NEWS of course afford material for the renewal of some of these records, but such a method is slow and inadequate. All former members of the College, therefore, are asked to send in notice of any change of address which has occurred since November, 1912; also notice of births, deaths, marriages, changes of position or occupation, and other biographical details referring to a time later than that date. COLLEGE NEWS will continue to be of great service, but it may be questioned whether the editors would be able to give space for all the items which should now be supplied. Such matter, therefore, if addressed to the Wellesley Record, Wellesley College, will be put into use just as soon as possible. In this respect, as in many another, the administration must ask the patience of all its friends, since the most pressing needs must receive the first attention.

MARY CASWELL,
Secretary to the President.

A REQUEST FROM THE LIBRARIAN.

Miss Brooks is anxious to make for the library a collection of clippings from newspapers and periodicals, which contain articles on the fire or on Wellesley at this time. She will be grateful for any items which people will kindly send to the College library.

NOTICES.

It is hoped that any regular subscriber to the NEWS who does not receive a copy of the fire issue will send word at once to the NEWS. Copies are being sent to all former members of the College as well as to all graduates.

The Juniors are planning to repeat their Junior play, "Beau Brummel," which will be given at the Cort Theater in Boston on Thursday and on Friday afternoons, April 2 and 3. This will be a benefit performance. The theater has been kindly loaned for the occasion.

I
pledge.....dollars
to be paid.....
and to be credited through the.....
.....Wellesley Club or the
Class of.....and applied to
.....
Name.....
Address.....
To be sent to President Pendleton.

THE MILLION DOLLAR ENDOWMENT.

Since the great disaster befell our Alma Mater, from Wellesley women all over the country comes the question: "How can we help?" The Alumnae Endowment Fund Committee, after consultation with President Pendleton, and Mr. Morse, Treasurer of the College, offers the following statement in answer to the question in all our hearts, on all our lips.

The first enquiry which our committee put to the College authorities was this: Do you want us to stand aside till the new buildings are assured, or shall we redouble our efforts for the Fund? And the answer came back straight and strong: We need the endowment now more than ever. And this of course is obvious. We can get along indefinitely with makeshift buildings, but we could not live a year with a makeshift Faculty. So, briefly, this is the situation: We have started to raise a Million Dollar Endowment for absolutely essential increase to the salaries of our Faculty. We shall now need two hundred and fifty thousand additional endowment for the maintenance of the separate buildings which will be necessary to fill the place of College Hall: dormitories, science, administration and classroom buildings; and we must find the money to build these. Nearly half of the first million is pledged. *Over and above this, and the insurance, we must raise for endowment and building two million dollars.*

It is a big contract; it comes at a season of business depression, and the daughters of Wellesley are not rich in this world's goods. All this we know, but we know, too, that the greater the need the more eagerly will love and loyalty respond; that while business may be depressed our energy and enthusiasm are at their highest; that if we have not money, we have ability, and, perhaps, rich friends. Anyway, here is our task; next, how can we accomplish it? In nearly every Club and state of the Union, there is an Endowment Fund Committee. Many of us have already pledged ourselves to give; some of us can add to our pledges. Those who have not yet promised anything, can promise it now, not tomorrow, but to-day. And *every one* can give *something*; it may be only a dollar, but that will help. Many classes are planning reunion gifts, and some of these are to go to the Fund. Make your class gift to your Club or State committee, and ask to have it credited to your class; we have arranged a double system of classification, by which every Alumna's gift will be credited both to her class and to the local committee through which she contributes.

In many towns, Club entertainments have been given for the Fund. The form which so far has yielded the largest results in comparison with the labor, has been the benefit,—that is the buying out of a theatrical performance, and reselling tickets. But other things have been done successfully. The Central Committee has a certain amount of material concerning all of these entertainments, which it will be only too glad to place at the disposal of any club, committee or group.

And we can all ask our friends to help. Not just by asking them to give money; that is not an easy or pleasant, or, often, a possible thing to do. But we can ask them to come to our benefits; we can ask

them to help us to the right sort of publicity; we can ask them for suggestions; and over and above all, we can all find out about some one who might and could give largely if approached by the Trustees.

We may well realize that this is the crisis in the life of Wellesley, and we who love our College and owe her much, have now our opportunity to show that love and gratitude, and by our unsparing labor and ungrudging gifts rebuild a new Wellesley, which can give to others as richly as the old Wellesley gave to us.

CANDACE C. STIMSON, '92, Chairman.
S. ELIZABETH STEWART, '91,
MARY HARRIMAN SEVERANCE, '85,
MAY MATHEWS, '02,
BEULAH HEPBURN, '12.

in the order in which they had been told to go. The quietness of all the human life contrasted most solemnly and awfully with the roar and crackling of the flames. I stopped in my room to get a strong box with valuable papers, put my feet into boots, took a coat from the closet, and left. The light in the heavens was terrifying in its brilliance and ominousness, and gave me an overwhelming sense of the violence of the flames. Outside it seemed dark, but as I picked up my watch I noticed it was 4.45. As I left my room, I saw that my opposite neighbor's room was in darkness, though fire orders are to turn on the electricity at once. I pounded and kicked at her door for what seemed many minutes, before she answered: "Is it a real fire?" She stopped for nothing but a coat and soon followed. As I went down the third



THE BURNING OF COLLEGE HALL.

I was awakened by the rapid flight of feet down the corridor; they were either bare feet or covered with bedroom slippers, for it was the swiftness of the footfalls, so strangely light and flying, that roused me to consciousness. I sprang up, ran out into the corridor, just in time to hear a voice saying to Miss Davis: "The house is on fire," and Miss Davis's answer. I ran back to my room and in the same moment the gong rang throughout the house. As I entered my door, I saw through the unshuttered window the whole heavens alight, and the flame rising over the extreme other end of the building,—the west wing. The fire started between the fourth and fifth floors. That mad scamper of feet down the corridor must have aroused others, too, for on the very instant of the alarm, doors seemed to fly open, and people who had snatched up a kimono were going down the stairs in perfect order. I heard no outcry; in fact, I heard no human voice above the hurrying feet, no lamentation, no questioning, nothing but the automatic quick march of people down the stairs,

floor corridor to the Center, the light in every room was on, and every room empty, and the house still except for the crackling and tumult and roar of the flames. There was no smoke in the third floor corridor for it was all going upward, and even the smell of smoke was not strong. In the first floor Center, Miss Davis was giving orders to the girls; the roll-call was just finishing, every one answering quietly. The student fire captains behaved as if they were veterans; for the few who had not answered to the roll-call, messengers were sent without confusion. I heard Miss Davis ordering some groups to go to the hill houses. The roar of the fire had greatly increased by this time and chips of flame were falling down into the Center while we stood there. Occasionally a louder crash resounded. A small group of us went out to the south porch and over to Stone Hall, talking quietly, but not nervously. I saw no tears, no sign of tears, no one who looked as if she were terror stricken. Several people offered to help me with the bundle I was carrying, most naturally, as one would help

at any time. One girl remarked: "How the cold of this concrete strikes into my feet!" and we noticed she was barefooted. We stopped, while some one who had put on bed slippers and had grabbed a pair of boots which she held in her hand, helped the barefooted girl into boots.

Soon girls from other houses assembled and, with the College Hall students, formed long lines, passing from hand to hand the things which were being thrown out of windows. The work was very systematically organized and efficient. The College employees were throwing things out, working with great dispatch. Miss Mary Frazer Smith superintended the removal of the records, the marks of past and present students, which, in their proper drawers, were taken to the president's house in an automobile. It is too soon yet to enumerate the things saved and lost. The last things I remember seeing on the lawn were the President's chair from the Faculty parlor and a framed picture of Fraulein Wenckebach.

And in all this hurly-burly of rescue work, of men shouting to clear the way for something to be thrown out of a window, there was no confusion. Everybody seemed calm, collected, quick to see individual needs, kindly in responding to them. The west wing was belching living sheets of flame from every window; I watched it sweep over to the east wing, with incredible rapidity, until I saw it surging out of the window in the fourth floor above my room. Then I could look no longer. It was about seven or a quarter to seven, I think, at that time. The fire had been burning two hours.

Miss Case was thought of at once, and the girl who was responsible for bringing down her wheeled chair went to bring it down, automatically, found that Miss Calkins had already brought it, and Miss Case was taken to the Library. Mrs. Irvine was away for the night, but since she had not answered the roll-call and her door was locked, men broke into the room with a hatchet to make sure she was not there. Apparently nobody forgot her duty or responsibility for others. The great outstanding fact in the whole experience is the value of fire drills. Muscles and mind seem to make an almost mechanical response to the forms that have been gone through again and again, as if the emergency were at hand. When the emergency does come, the response is automatic, without effort. But greater than this, and greatest of all, was the steadiness of nerve which two hundred girls showed; a control that was intelligent, unafraid, and clear-sighted. I saw expressions on faces that day which will go with me to my grave, of pure human comradeship, of an almost divine compassionateness and oneness of everybody with everybody else. We stood in that gray light of early morning as if we were disembodied spirits, head and heart at their highest and purest. The burning of College Hall will always bear supreme witness to the worth of college discipline and college unity.

At 8.30 chapel service was held, crowded so full that many stood,—perhaps the most impressive service in the memory of Wellesley. The president referred to the calamity, bade all who lived near to go home at once in order to make room for two

hundred and sixteen College Hall refugees, who could not go until they had gathered some clothes. She announced the resumption of work on the seventh of April, the regular closing of the spring recess. The loss of property is compensated for by no loss or injury to human beings. The maids' dormitory adjacent was saved. Students and Faculty saw all they had perish,—for some of the Faculty the accumulations of a lifetime. The departments of zoology and geology saw their rich collections wiped out, and the data of research work extending over years by individual members of these departments utterly destroyed. But such sacrifice and loss is woven into the finest tradition of College loyalty.

A MEMBER OF THE FACULTY.

FROM A STUDENT.

My room was situated at the extreme west end of the third floor of College Hall. I was awakened by the first stroke of the big gong and lay in bed while I counted five strokes. I noticed that the strokes seemed weak and hurried. These strokes were followed by five strong, even ones. M. and I put on our kimonos and bedroom slippers, closed our windows and turned on our lights, still supposing it to be a regular fire drill. As we went out of our room, we met S. T. coming for us and we three went downstairs. The girls were crowded in Center, looking out the north door at the glare. I did not realize that College Hall was on fire until I saw that glare. We were ordered to our regular places for roll-call and everyone obeyed instantly. The lieutenant on our corridor called the roll and then the fire chief of College Hall called the roll of the lieutenants. Then someone told us to go out doors and we left the building, some by the south door, but the majority by the north one.

During all this time, no one said "fire" or talked above an ordinary tone of voice, so that the voices of the lieutenants and of the fire chief could be distinctly heard, as well as the sound of the fire above us. No one whom I saw was hysterical, but obeyed orders quietly, even though sparks were falling on us and even pieces of blazing wood. We stepped on the sparks and put the first one out, but when pieces of wood began to fall, we had to get out of the way and at this time were ordered to leave the building. We went to other dormitories and borrowed clothes.

NOTES.

The cause of the fire is unknown. There are no well-substantiated theories in regard to its origin. It did not catch in the chemistry laboratory, for the chemistry building, as all who know the present Wellesley are aware, is at the foot of Norumbega Hill. No fires were allowed in College Hall, and the strictest precautions were taken to avoid the danger of fire.

To Miss Davis's rigorous insistence upon fire-drills, in co-operation with the officers of the Student Government Association, the students owe their safety.

The members of the staff living in College Hall are: Miss Myrtila Avery, '91, Miss Ellen L. Burrell, '80, Miss Lillian E. Bullock, Miss Magdeleine O. Carret, Miss Mary S. Case, Mrs. Cornelia R. Creque, Miss Olive Davis, '86, Miss Elizabeth F. Fisher, Miss Sophie C. Hart, Mrs. Julia J. Irvine, Miss Helen M. Johnston, '05, Miss Amy H. Nye, Miss Alice Robertson, Miss Mary F. Smith, '96, Miss Edith S. Tufts, '84, and Mrs. Charlotte Whiton.

In the speech which she made to the girls on Monday morning, during the celebration of Wellesley's victory in debate, Miss Pendleton said, "It is a fine thing to be enthusiastic over victory, it is a better to learn enthusiasm from defeat."

The key-stone, over the front door, with I. H. S. cut in it was uninjured, and will be removed for use in another building.

The three silver keys that are entrusted to the President at the time of her inauguration, were saved.

A professor of philosophy who lost everything in the fire, said: "I have spent all my life teaching people that the things that are seen are temporal, and now we have the chance of our lives to prove that the things that are unseen are eternal."

A policeman remarked, "There wasn't a girl there who thought about herself, or her own things, or tried to get back. They just stood there in line, some of them barefooted, and handed things along."

A workman is reported as saying: "Those girls even had the hose on, and if there had been any pressure they wouldn't have needed help from outside. There wasn't one there who was not as cool as I was."

A professor of astronomy promptly purchased Mrs. Davis' entire supply of handkerchiefs and distributed them to the sufferers.

To many citizens of the town the College owes much for the help given at the fire. Without their assistance many valuable books and papers would have been burned.

Special gratitude is due to the Wellesley National Bank, which by its prompt offer of assistance, enabled the students to take their departure. Checks to the amount of \$25,000 were cashed for students that day.

The Boston and Albany Railroad gave very substantial aid, arranging for transportation and stopping several express trains at Wellesley.

Copies of this issue, until exhausted, may be obtained by sending eleven cents (covering postage) to Fire Issue, COLLEGE NEWS, Wellesley, Mass. Any surplus after paying expenses will be given to the College.

Later issues of COLLEGE NEWS will contain some further details of the fire. Subscriptions for three months (fifty cents) may be sent to COLLEGE NEWS, Wellesley.

Mr. Nichols, of Wellesley, who has kindly allowed us to reproduce his photographs, has other photographs of the ruins, and also pictures of College Hall as it was: 8 x 10, 75 cents; 11 x 14, \$1.50; 16 x 20, \$3.00.

A widow lady, not a Wellesley Alumna, mother of three little girls, and possessor of a very limited income, sent one dollar, saying that, while the money was nothing, she wished to express in some way her gratitude for what certain daughters of Wellesley had meant to her, and adding that if every friend of Wellesley would send a dollar, the College needs would soon be met. No more beautiful or more significant gift than this can come.

Contributions for relieving the needs of the victims of the fire have been received from many sources.

Work has already been begun upon the temporary Administration building, which will occupy the space east of the chapel and north of Music Hall. This building will be a one-story wooden structure, which is promised for occupation by May 1.

A young instructor, who comes from another college, finding some of the fugitives from College Hall in the village, trying to telephone to their families, helped them carry out their purpose and afterward took them to breakfast. She felt that her knowledge of Wellesley and its influence was greatly furthered by the fact that fire victims, who had lost so many of their own possessions had nothing to say of this, the one subject of conversation being: "How to raise money for the College."

Slips are being taken from the ivy on College Hall and these are being carefully tagged with the numbers of the different classes who have planted it.

Plans are being made for the publication of a souvenir booklet which will contain pictures of College Hall and a history of the building. This book will be on sale at Commencement, it is hoped. Further details will be given later.

There has been much exaggeration of numbers in connection with accounts of the fire. According to Miss Tufts' official record, there were one hundred and ninety-eight students and eighteen members of the Faculty living in College Hall. Of these students seven-eight were Seniors.



College Hall Centre. Photograph by Nichols, Wellesley.

OFFICIAL NOTICE TO ALUMNÆ.

The usual announcements relative to the Commencement season will not be sent from the College to each Alumna, and instead the following statement is made.

Tree Day will be observed at 3 o'clock, May 29.¹⁴

Applications for tickets should be made by sending a self-addressed stamped envelope to Miss Tufts, and the tickets will be ready for distribution May 20. Commencement Day is June 16. Alumna Day is June 17. The exercises of the Commencement season will be as usual, and it is hoped that the reunion classes will gather in large numbers. This is the crucial moment in the life of our Alma Mater. Let all her daughters rally to her aid.

Through the class secretaries the members of reunion classes will receive any official notice from the College.

I. Addresses: Every Alumna is earnestly requested to send her correct address to the General Secretary, Mrs. Mary G. Ahlers, Wellesley College, and to report any changes in that address up to September first, when the new Alumna Register will go to print.

II. Dues: Every Alumna who has not paid her annual dues of one dollar to the Alumna Association is urged to do so at once and thus show her loyalty and interest. According to the 1913 amendment to the By-laws, only those who pay their annual dues or are life members receive notices of association meetings and the reports of the President and the Treasurer of the College.

III. The Alumna office will be in Billings Hall. Alumna should consult a list posted in the Railway Station, giving the houses to which reunion classes are assigned and to which baggage may be sent. Alumna will register in Billings Hall.

IV. The chairman of the Committee of Arrangements for each class of ten years' standing or more, having a reunion, is requested to consult the Registrar of the College in regard to the assignment of class headquarters during Commencement Week. Reunion classes are '79, '84, '89, '94, '99, '04, '09, '11, '13.

V. The Alumna prayer-meeting will be held on the morning of Baccalaureate Sunday at 9.45, in the chapel.

VI. The annual meeting of the Wellesley Alumna Chapter of the College Settlements Association will be held on the morning of Alumna Day at 9.30 o'clock in Billings Hall.

VII. Alumna owning caps and gowns are requested to use them on Commencement Day. Those desiring caps and gowns or hoods, should communicate with the Registrar of the College. Notices in regard to the delivery of these will be posted at Billings Hall.

VIII. All mail should be addressed "Wellesley College Alumna Mail."

IX. The attention of Alumna is called to the fact that the business meeting will be held on June 17 at 10, A.M., in Billings Hall. All are asked to be prompt.

X. It is expected that the Alumna Luncheon will be held on Alumna Day, but the place is not yet determined.

Alice Upton Pearmain, '83,

President of the Wellesley College Alumna Association.

Mary Gilman Ahlers, '88,
Alumna General Secretary.

AN APPEAL IN BEHALF OF WELLESLEY COLLEGE.

On March 17, 1914, College Hall, the center of College activities, was destroyed by fire. At a meeting of the Board of Trustees held March 30, to consider the whole situation, it was finally voted to appeal to the friends of Wellesley College and to the friends of education throughout the country, for a fund of \$1,800,000 to replace facilities afforded by College Hall, and to complete the Million Dollar Endowment Fund.

NEEDS OF WELLESLEY COLLEGE.

I. Before the Fire.

Before College Hall was destroyed, the Trustees had recognized the following vital needs of the College:

1. Increased endowment.
2. Better housing for the departments of science.
3. Additional halls of residence.
4. A Student-Alumnæ building.

A site for a new residence quadrangle was approved in November, 1911, and the Trustees had authorized the building of one hall of residence on this site. A plan for a group of science buildings was also under consideration. The Alumnæ and former students of the College had secured upward of \$40,000 toward a Student-Alumnæ building which was to furnish an auditorium and suitable offices for Alumnæ and student organizations. All these plans were made without any intention of increasing the size of the College. The halls of residence were needed to house students already in attendance who were living in the town of Wellesley, many of them in private houses, others in houses leased and operated by the College. The new science buildings were needed to house the departments already overcrowded in rooms originally designed for residence and ill adapted for scientific laboratories. There was no auditorium which could seat the whole College, aside from the Memorial Chapel, given for religious purposes. Important as this need for buildings was, it was decided in March, 1913, to postpone temporarily any appeal for buildings and to concentrate on an effort to raise a million dollars for endowment. This endowment is necessary primarily to increase salaries. All the members of the teaching staff of professional rank are serving the College on salaries distinctly lower than those paid to their peers in every other woman's college in New England save one. The General Education Board promises \$200,000 toward this endowment fund, provided the balance of \$800,000 is secured on or before June 30, 1915. \$560,000 of this million remain to be raised before that date or the College loses the sum promised by the General Education Board. This campaign for endowment must, therefore, go steadily forward.

On the authority of an expert on endowment and equipment of colleges, it may be conservatively stated that Wellesley College needed before the burning of College Hall, two million dollars, one million for endowment and a second million for buildings.

II. Since the Fire.

College Hall, the building which was burned on March 17, contained:

I. Offices:

For administration.....	9
For departments.....	14
For student organizations.....	3

II. Twenty-eight lecture rooms and class rooms with a total seating capacity of 1,200. Assembly Hall with seating capacity of 650. Study Hall with seating capacity of 75. Laboratories, museums, and other equipment in Geology, Physics, Psychology and Zoology for a College of 1,500. Department libraries in Geology, Physics, and Zoology were also included. Residence for 216 people, including dining-rooms, parlors, etc. Luncheon and cloak rooms for non-resident members of the Faculty and students.

The fact that so much was included in one building is a witness to the splendid use of every inch of space. The College requires to replace the accommodations furnished by College Hall for:

I. Residence purposes:	Estimated Cost.
Accommodations for 240,	\$450,000.00
2. Academic and administrative purposes,	900,000.00
Scientific laboratories for Geology, Physics, Psychology and Zoology	
Administrative offices and Assembly Hall, Recitation Hall, addition to central heating plant made necessary by these buildings, including conduits, grading, etc.	
3. For equipment of these buildings and laboratories,	223,000.00
4. Additional endowment necessary for the maintenance of these separate buildings,	250,000.00

Total necessary for replacement,	\$1,823,000.00
Recovered from insurance on building,	\$470,000.00
Recovered from insurance on equipment,	123,000.00
	\$593,000.00

Balance necessary for replacement of facilities destroyed by fire, \$1,230,000.00

This sum is required in addition to the insurance already paid as above because the cost of separate buildings with modern construction is so great. To this sum must, therefore, be added the \$560,000 still necessary to complete the Million Dollar Endowment Fund, making a total of \$1,790,000.

To put the College where it was before the burning of College Hall, to secure the Million Dollar Endowment Fund, and to meet the other vital needs existing before the fire, Wellesley College needs three million dollars. The Trustees recognize that this is a large sum to raise, but there are certain demands growing out of our recent loss which must be met at once if Wellesley College is to keep its place in the front rank. They have, therefore, decided to make at this time an appeal for \$1,800,000, the sum required to replace the accommodations furnished by College Hall, and to complete the

Million Dollar Endowment Fund. This leaves to be secured through later gifts a balance of \$1,200,000, the amount necessary to satisfy the other needs. Of the \$1,800,000 for which this appeal is made, \$560,000 (amount necessary to complete the Million Dollar Endowment) must be secured, as announced earlier, on or before June 30, 1915. The Trustees propose to secure the balance, \$1,240,000 on or before January 1, 1915.

Wellesley College was dedicated to the service of God and was founded with the announced purpose of "giving to young women opportunities for education equivalent to those provided in colleges for young men." It has freely opened its doors to all races and creeds. Its service has been national, not local. The enrollment for the present year is 1,480. More than sixty-two per cent. of these students claim residence outside of New England. The College undertakes to prepare its students for effective Christian citizenship, and stands for high ideals of scholarship and of life. The public press has already paid tribute to the Wellesley training as tested in the recent fire. Wellesley College faces a crisis in its history, and its appeal to the friends of education rests on an honorable past.

Signed:

WILLIAM LAWRENCE,
President of the Board of Trustees.

ELLEN F. PENDLETON,
President of Wellesley College.

April 2, 1914.

\$622,000 GIFTS TO WELLESLEY

**President Pendleton Announces
Them—Largest an Anonymous One of \$250,000.**

At the Wellesley College commencement yesterday, President Pendleton announced that gifts aggregating \$622,000 had been paid or pledged toward the \$1,250,000 which the college must raise before Jan. 1, 1915, to secure the conditional gift of \$750,000 from the Rockefeller Foundation. The largest single gift was one of \$250,000 from an anonymous giver, for a central dormitory to be on the site of College Hall, which was burned March 17. The smallest gift was one of \$2 from "A Working Man," and no announcement received greater applause than that of this humble offering.

The gift of \$250,000 was made through Mrs. Louise McCoy North, New York, of the class of 1879, the first class to be graduated from the college, and was in honor of the class's 35th reunion.

Miss Susan Minns, Boston, gave \$50,000 in honor of the late Susan M. Hallowell, formerly professor of botany at Wellesley. Mrs. David B. Kimball, Boston, gave \$25,000 and an anonymous gift of \$25,000 came in recognition of the efforts of the alumnae since the destruction of College Hall.

Former Student Gives \$25,000.

The largest gift from a former student was \$25,000 from Mrs. Dudley P. Allen, Cleveland, O. The contributions of alumnae and former students amount to \$207,064, which has been raised since the fire. The undergraduates contributed more than \$20,000. The Hawaiian Wellesley Club cabled a gift of \$300. Miss Caroline Hazard, formerly president of Wellesley, telegraphed \$1000. Cyrus H. K. Curtis, Philadelphia, recently elected a trustee of the college, gave \$16,000. Mr. Curtis is stepfather of Miss Eleanor Pillsbury, who was student-president of College Hall in 1912-13, the last full academic year of the life of the edifice.

Included in the \$207,064 given by alumnae were these class gifts, marking this year's reunions: Class of '97, \$3061; Class of '80, \$8700; Class of '89, \$5000; Class of '94, \$3000; Class of '99, \$16,128; Class of '04, \$5500 (as a memorial to Miss Elsie McKill of that class); Class of '09, \$4850; Class of '11, \$4650; Class of '13, \$8548.

The Class of 1884's contribution was in special recognition of the services of Miss Edith Souther Tufts, a member of the class, as registrar of the college at the time of the fire and since. The Class of '88 gave \$5000 in recognition of similar service by Miss Olive Davis, superintendent of the Halls of Residence.

Members of the executive committee of the Alumnae Association gave \$4000 for the proposed student-alumnae building.

New Academic Centre.

Miss Pendleton also announced that a new academic centre would be established in the meadow opposite the chapel, instead of on the site of College Hall, which offers inadequate space for the academic growth of the college.

President Pendleton paid tribute to the generosity of the alumnae, students and friends, but suggested that the last half is harder to raise than the first, and that to secure the Rockefeller gift, the whole must be pledged by Jan. 1. Steps were taken to organize a strenuous campaign to raise the remaining \$623,000 during the last three months of this year.

The trustees last evening adopted resolutions expressing their grateful appreciation of the anonymous gift made through Mrs. North.

On March 17, 1900, College activities, waiting of the Board to consider the vote to appeal to the country, for a facilities afforded by the Million Dollar

Needs of

I. Be

Before College Hall had recognized the College:

1. Increased end
2. Better housing
3. Additional hall
4. A Student-Alu

A site for a new proved in November authorized the built on this site. A plan was also under cor former students of t of \$40,000 toward which was to furni All these plans wer of increasing the s

of residence were ne in attendance who w ley, many of then houses leased and new science buildi departments ahead ally designed for res tific laboratories. could seat the who mortal Chapel, giv portant as this nec cided in March, 19 appeal for buildi effort to raise a 1 This endowment is salaries. All the of professional rank ries distinctly lowe in every other wo save one. The Gei \$200,000 toward t the balance of \$8c June 30, 1915. \$51 be raised before th sum promised by This campaign for go steadily forward

On the authori and equipment of c stated that Welles burning of College Hall, two million dollars, one million for endowment and a second million for buildings.

THE FIRE AT WELLESLEY

By FLORENCE CONVERSE

AT half past four o'clock on the morning of Tuesday, March 17th, the fire bells in Wellesley village rang the alarm for the college fire. At half past eight, the great central building on the desolated hill above the lake, lifted up its ragged walls and roofless arches, already as remote from to-day as any ruin of old Rome; but the college chapel, crowded to its doors, was echoing to the words of the old hymn of trust and comfort—

"O God, our help in ages past—"

and through all the perplexing, fear-tugging days since the calamity, this forward-looking, Christian exaltation has not abated.

Yet, every hour seems to come burdened with new loss: the apparatus for the departments of physics, zoölogy, geology, psychology, is entirely swept away; the college archives are gone; almost all the departments have suffered heavy losses, the department of zoölogy perhaps the heaviest of all, for here valuable material and the results of years of research and experiment along biological lines have been swept away. And these scientific scholars whose devoted labor has been brought to naught, smile and say with a Franciscan serenity as unconscious as it is startling: "We must learn to live more in the spirit."

The whole brief drama of the fire seems to have been dominated by this unconscious selflessness of the actors. The students obeyed the fire drill like soldiers; there was no aimless running hither and yon, no crying and confusion. Three times they answered to their names, standing in line in their appointed squads on the ground floor of the building; no girl went out until the word was given, and, more astonishing, no girl went back again into the burning building, although many saw that there was still time to reach the rooms on the lower floors and save some things and come out. They said, "No; it is forbidden. If one goes, others may go; and how shall we know then who is safe?" So they formed a line outside, and passed books, pictures, chairs, anything that came out to them, from hand to hand. Most of them were stockingless and had only their cloaks over their night-clothes; they saved nothing of their own.

And at half past eight they were in chapel; those who belonged to the chapel choir were marching up the aisle, singing. The alumnae who were privileged to bear a part in that morning service will cherish always the precious experience: the memory of President Pendleton's words as she comforted her dazed and stricken flock, reminding them that they—not the building—were the college; the memory of her brief prayer with its note of thankfulness and dauntless trust; the memory of her reading from the eighth chapter of Romans, "For I reckon that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed to us-ward. . . . What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who is against us? He that spared not His own Son, but delivered Him up for us all, how shall He not also with Him freely give us all things? . . . Nay, in all these things we are more than conquerors, through Him that loved us. For I am persuaded that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus."

Courtesy of "The Living Church."

And with two hundred and fifty of her students houseless, with almost all her class-rooms and four of her laboratories demolished, President Pendleton called a faculty meeting for eleven o'clock on the morning of the fire, and announced, with the characteristic, intrepid lifting up of her head which students, alumnae, and faculty know so well, that every member of the college would report for duty on the seventh of April.

The Sunday after the fire was Mid-Lent Sunday, Refreshment Sunday; and the rector of St. Andrew's, in Wellesley village, preached on the miracle of the feeding of five thousand and the spiritual myopia of St. Philip. Incidentally he referred to Wellesley's attitude of fearless trust.

Wellesley—expectant of the miracle! In this year of Our Lord, 1914.

Everyone is saying, "How shall this multitude be fed?" Some say, "Now is the opportunity of her alumnae." Let us see:

Wellesley's alumnae are in number not quite five thousand; many are married, but few are married to millionaires; of those who are unmarried, almost none have independent means, almost all are earning their own living, and some have relatives dependent upon them. Wellesley has her physicians, scientists, writers, it is true; but the majority of her single women are teachers, missionaries, social workers; everywhere they are to be found in these honorable and usually illpaid occupations, giving themselves without stint. It does not appear how they are to provide the loaves and fishes for this emergency. Of their little they give—five loaves and two small fishes. But there are needful: an administration building, a science building, a building for recitations and lectures, several dormitories, and besides all this an endowment fund; twelve basketfuls would be none too much for that alone!

And yet who dares to say that the miracle has not already begun to be worked. The college will open on April 7th; by crowding in the dormitories and the village houses, the two hundred and fifty will be housed. In the society houses there are a few rooms available for classes, and in addition the two churches in the village have offered the use of their guild rooms. Five colleges, Harvard, Clarke, Tufts, Pennsylvania, Institute of Technology, have offered to lend laboratory apparatus for the spring term. But after the spring term, what?

Wellesley is obeying with splendid detachment the command to take no thought for the morrow, but her need is as imperative as her unworldliness is inspiring. If the millions which are needed are denied her; if she is destined henceforth to be a cripple, to drop back, for lack of buildings to house her students, for lack of equipment to carry on her classes, for lack of money to pay her devoted teachers—to drop back, a failure, out of the running, at least she will fail like a Christian; and from such failures seeds spring and blossom, and sweet fruits are borne—not thistles.

But we who are her own, do not believe in failure for Wellesley. We who have belonged to her since the early days, when the vanished building was almost the only one on her campus; who have watched her move forward and take her place in the front rank of women's colleges; we, her five thousand, with our poor little five loaves and two small fishes—wait with her, expecting the miracle.

II. Since the fire, College Hall, the building which was burned on March 17, contained:

Million Dollar Endowment Fund. This leaves to be secured through later gifts a balance of \$1,200,000, the amount necessary to satisfy the other

Miss Susan Minns, Boston, gave \$50,000 in honor of the late Susan M. Halliwell, formerly professor of

David B. 00 and an s of the action of 25,000. a former s. Dudley r contribu- r students has been ntergradu- 250,000. The died a gift l, formerly egrated n the col- is stop- bury, who lege Hall emic year 1 by alum- arling this \$300; Class 0; Class of : Miss Ediso f 70, \$480; 13, \$838. ion was in services of he order the colli shine. The perition of ve Davis. s of Peab- committee gave \$400 nt-alumnae tre. nced that l be esab- : the chap- llege Hall, e for the ge. ue to the students at the last e the first. 1, by Jan. 1. Residue- months of 300,000 res- eful appre- gift made

cided to make at this time an appeal for \$1,800,000, the sum required to replace the accommodations furnished by College Hall, and to complete the

New York, of the class of 1879, the first class to be graduated from the college, and was in honor of the class's 30th reunion.



CHEER GIRL HEROINE

Wellesley Women Pay Tribute to Muriel Arthur, Who Led Fire Rescue

Boston, March 19.—Wellesley College girls in the rush of packing their grips and telling one another good-bye as they left for home yesterday paid their tribute to Miss Muriel Arthur, of 1915, the heroine of the disastrous fire which destroyed the college hall.

Miss Arthur was at the Wellesley railroad station with the other girls. She waited for a train that would take her to her home in Detroit.

"There's Muriel," the word passed around. "There's our real heroine!"

They cheered and cheered again, and when Miss Arthur boarded a train they cheered some more and threw her kisses.

Miss Arthur was the captain of the girl's fire brigade that led every student to safety.

President Pendleton last night announced that Wellesley College will reopen April 7. Six fraternity houses are to be used for dormitories and offices.

East Door



WONT YOU GIVE SOMETHING, FOR ENDOWMENT OR REBUILDING, OR WHEREVER THE TRUSTEES FIND THE NEED GREATEST?

The Philadelphia
Inquirer

JULY 27, 1936

Educator Dies



ELLEN FITZ PENDLETON

Former president of Wellesley College, who died yesterday at 71.

ELLEN PENDLETON DIES; EX-HEAD OF WELLESLEY

NEWTON, Mass., July 26 (A. P.). —Miss El'en Fitz Pendleton, 71, who retired last month as president of Wellesley College, died today of a paralytic stroke.

Death came to the internationally known educator at the home of a niece, Miss Barbara M. Hahn, where she had been critically ill for more than two weeks.

After graduation from Wellesley in 1886 she was asked the same fall to substitute as an instructor "for a few weeks." She stayed for 50 years, serving successively as an instructor, secretary, dean and president.

A native of Westerly, R. I., Miss Pendleton in her half-century at Wellesley won international recognition as an educator.

Colleges honored her with degrees. The Government sent her as its representative to international scholastic conferences.

Funeral services will be held in the Wellesley College chapel at 2 P. M., Tuesday. They will be con-

ducted by Rt. Rev. Henry Knox Sherrill, Episcopal Bishop of Massachusetts, and Dr. Boynton Merrill, a Wellesley trustee, pastor of the Congregational Church of West Newton.

MISS PENDLETON, COLLEGE HEAD, DIES

First Alumna President of
Wellesley, 71, Had Retired
Only Last Month.

HELD POST FOR 25 YEARS

Celebrated Golden Jubilee as
Educator in June—Noted
for Liberal Views.

NEWTON, Mass., July 26 (AP).—Miss Ellen Fitz Pendleton, who retired last month as president of Wellesley College, died here today of a paralytic stroke at the home of a niece, Miss Barbara M. Hahn, where she had been ill since she collapsed on July 16. She was 71 years old.

Funeral services will be held in the Wellesley College chapel at 2 P. M. on Tuesday. They will be conducted by the Right Rev. Henry Knox Sherrill, Episcopal Bishop of Massachusetts, and Dr. Boynton Merrill, a Wellesley trustee, pastor of the Congregational Church of West Newton.

A memorial service will be held at the college in the Fall, after classes are resumed.

Burial will be in Westerly, R. I. A brother, James Pendleton of Westerly, and a sister, Mrs. B. D. Hahn of Greenville, S. C., survive.

First Alumna President

Miss Ellen Fitz Pendleton was the sixth president of Wellesley College and the first Wellesley alumna to preside over her alma mater. When she retired last month, she had given the college half a century of service on the faculty, twenty-five years of which she had spent as head of the institution.

Miss Pendleton had planned to travel and renew acquaintances in Europe and the Orient during her first year or two of leisure and then return to the town of Wellesley and live near the college where she had spent so many productive years.

Commencement week of 1936 saw the end of her fifty-four years with the college as student, instructor and administrator. Special honor was paid her by fellow-alumnae in a jubilee pageant depicting the growth of the college since its founding and the advances made under her administration. A special celebration of her achievements had been held a month earlier.



Wellesley Studio Photo.

DR. ELLEN F. PENDLETON

In the quarter century period of her presidency, despite war and depression, Miss Pendleton not only kept the college solvent but was largely responsible for an increase in its wealth and efficiency. In her administration the college's endowment grew from \$1,268,937 to \$8,440,000, the value of the plant from \$2,500,000 to \$10,000,000 in the erection of seventeen new Gothic buildings, the faculty salaries were doubled and fifty members were added to the teaching staff, while the student body was kept constant at 1,500.

Ovation at Jubilee

Before responding to 1,200 graduates in tribute to her at the jubilee celebration, Miss Pendleton, confronted with a large birthday cake, holding fifty candles, said: "I'll begin by putting out the fire."

The remark brought an ovation, for the gathering recalled that Miss Pendleton, just after becoming president, was forced to rebuild the college structure which fire had destroyed in 1914. Under her direction a temporary building was erected in fifteen days, and subsequently under her leadership a new building was financed.

Aside from developing the physical plant, Miss Pendleton maintained not only her liberal views but enough of the traditions of Wellesley and New England to win the approval of both liberals and conservatives on the faculty. She also maintained the principle of academic freedom throughout her administration.

"Our colleges," she said once, "must of course keep their students informed about what is going on in

the world, must relate their studies as closely as possible to life. For this reason the college faculty must have the opportunity of discussing and dissecting our political and social institutions in whatever way may be necessary. Academic freedom is a fundamental of college education. Having gathered together a faculty in whose judgment one trusts, we should give them the opportunity to teach in their own way untrammelled by restrictions."

Miss Pendleton was born in Westerly, R. I., on Aug. 7, 1864, eleven years before Wellesley College opened. She was the daughter of Enoch Burrows Pendleton and the former Mary Ette Chapman. She entered Wellesley in 1882, was graduated with honors four years later and, except for a year's study at Newnham College, Cambridge, England, and occasional trips abroad, spent the rest of her life at Wellesley.

High Lights of Career

She began her faculty service as tutor and instructor in mathematics and received the degree of Master of Arts in 1891. She was made treasurer of the college in 1897 and four years later was appointed head of College Hall and dean of the college, as well as Associate Professor of Mathematics.

Her appointment on June 9, 1911, as president was significant because of the fact that when her predecessor, Miss Caroline Hazard, announced in 1910 her intention of retiring, alumnae were divided over the advisability of selecting a man. After Miss Pendleton had been acting president for eight months, the trustees announced her election, and she was inaugurated on Oct. 19, 1911.

One of the many honors bestowed upon Miss Pendleton was the naming of the last of the seventeen college buildings erected during her administration, Pendleton Hall, the new science building opened last Fall to the departments of chemistry, physics and psychology.

In 1930 Miss Pendleton was appointed by the State Department to represent the women's colleges of the United States at the Inter-American Congress of Rectors, Deans and Educators at Havana.

Miss Pendleton received the honorary degree of Doctor of Literature from Brown University in 1911, and that of Doctor of Laws from Mount Holyoke in 1912, Smith College in 1925, the University of Toronto in 1927 and Williams College in 1931. She received the degree of Doctor of Letters from Columbia University just as she retired as president.

